

REMARKS

The claims of this application have been rejected over prior art as being obvious under 35 USC 103. Applicant has canceled claims 1, 3, 8, 10, 14 and 16, rewritten claims 2, 9 and 15 in independent form and amended the other claims as required to make all claims dependent on one of these rewritten claims.

In the rejection of canceled claims 1 and 8, Examiner relied on collision sensor 30 of David to anticipate applicant's recited accelerometer coupled to the first processor. Because this accelerometer was recited in claims 1 and 8, it was and is also a recitation of claims 2 and 9, respectively.

In the rejection of canceled claims 2 and 9, Examiner relies on the same collision sensor 30 to anticipate applicant's recited remote crash sensor. But claims 2 and 9 did and still do separately recite both (1) a dual axis accelerometer coupled to the first processor and (2) a remote crash sensor interface coupled between the first processor and a remote crash sensor. Thus, Examiner relies on the same, single element (collision sensor 30) of David to anticipate two separately recited recitations of applicants' claims 2 and 9. In addition, applicant's claims 2 and 9 also recite:

...wherein the first processor provides an activation signal to the restraint device responsive to...the lateral and longitudinal deceleration signals **and** the crash signal.

Since the lateral and longitudinal deceleration signals are both obtained from the recited (dual axis) accelerometer and the crash signal is obtained from the recited remote crash sensor, the claim unambiguously requires signals from both recited sensors. But David shows the use of only a single "collision sensor 30;" and, in fact, none of the other cited references shows the use of both an accelerometer (let alone a dual axis accelerometer as actually recited) and a separate, remote crash sensor. In his rejection, Examiner may not legitimately

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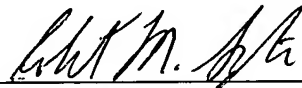
use a single sensor in a prior art reference to simultaneously represent two different and separately recited sensors of a claim. Thus, for each of applicant's presented claims 2, 4 – 7, 9 and 11 – 13, a recited element is missing from Examiner's combination of references; and there is thus no *prima facie* case of obviousness.

Applicant can find no specific discussion of the application of the prior art to applicant's canceled claim 14; but applicant assumes, due to the parallels between claim 14 and claims 1 and 8, that the rejection is similarly based. Thus, the preceding also applies to applicant's presented claims 15 and 17 – 20.

Applicant requests withdrawal of the rejections of presented claims 2, 4 – 7, 9, 11 – 13, 15 and 17 – 20.

Please charge any deficiencies and credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0831.

Respectfully submitted,



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